

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 080912Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8086

S E C R E T KUALA LUMPUR 9570

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT - PARA 4

DEPT RPT AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, MILI, CB, VM, MY, US

SUBJ: UPDATE OF SITUATION IN INDOCHINA

REF : STATE 224189

1. AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF, CALLED ON MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ZAKARIA SEPT 8 TO DISCUSS INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES, US-SOVIET INDIAN OCEAN TALKS, AND ALSO TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TOUCH BRIEFLY ON INDOCHINESE DEVELOPMENTS PER REFTEL. (REPORTS ON OTHER SUBJECTS BEING CONVEYED SEPTELS).

2. THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED TAN SRI ZAKARIA THAT WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT A DETAILED UPDATED ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA WHICH, FOLLOWING UP THE RECENT US-ASEAN DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON, WE WISH TO SHARE WITH THE GOM AND OTHER ASEAN GOVERNMENTS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE PROPOSED TO HAVE THE DCM BRIEF MFA UNDERSECRETARY POLITICAL DIVISION II, ABDULLAH ZAWAWI BIN MOHAMMED (WHO HANDLES SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR MFA) ON THE DETAILED ASSESSMENT, BUT THAT HE WISHED TO RAISE A FEW POINTS WITH ZAKARIA. FIRST, THE USG WOULD PARTICULARLY

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WELCOME THE GOM'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF INDOCHINESE RELATED DEVELOPMENTS IN VIEW OF MALAYSIA'S PROXIMITY, INTERESTS, AND DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS WITH THE INDOCHINESE.

3. SECOND, THE AMBASSADOR DREW ON PARAS 19 AND 20 REFTEL, STRESSING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF OUR FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH SRV REPS AT THE UNGA. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO

KEEP ITS FRIENDS INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AND REITERATED THAT WE WOULD WELCOME ASEAN VIEWS ON EVOLVING US-INDOCHINESE RELATIONS.

4. ZAKARIA REACTED POSITIVELY TO THE OFFER OF A MORE DETAILED BRIEFING, AT WHICH TIME HE SAID WE WOULD BE GIVEN THE GOM'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. HE OPINED THAT THE FLURRY OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY NOW UNDERWAY BY VARIOUS PROTAGONISTS, PARTICULARLY THE VISIT BY PHAM VAN DONG TO ASEAN CAPITALS, SHOULD SHED SOME ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON THE SITUATION. IN THIS REGARD HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE DATES HAVE NOT BEEN FIXED, THE GOM HAS PROPOSED PHAM VISIT KUALA LUMPUR SOMETIME THE SECOND WEEK OF OCTOBER. HE WENT ON TO ADD THAT TENG HSIAO PING WOULD BE VISITING MALAYSIA IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO BANKGOK.

MILLER

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